

Information Sheet

IS13084

Sicklepod

Sicklepod

Senna obtusifolia

Introduction

Sicklepod, also known as Arsenic weed, is a weed pest in some canegrowering areas from Mossman to Sarina. The weed competes vigorously with sugarcane, reduces yield and causes harvesting problems. It is present in severe proportions in the Herbert Valley.

Problem

- Estimated to infest 25,000 ha of the 60,000 ha under sugarcane in the Herbert alone.
- Mature plants can produce upwards of 10,000 seeds and can remain viable in the soil for 10 years.
- Older plants and more stressed plants from either wet or dry conditions become more difficult to control.
- Other chemicals have been tested with poor or minimal control.

Description

- Vigorous growing, very competitive woody shrub.
- Grows to between 1.5-2.5 m tall.
- Leaves divided into three opposite pairs.
- Flowers yellow, small with five petals.

• Seed pod is long, slender and sickle shaped.

Chemical control

 Tordon 75-D is registered for sicklepod control in sugarcane in Queensland.

Application information

- Best control by thoroughly wetting the plant.
- Ground application is the most effective and should use between 200-250 L water/ha.
- Application by aircraft must not use less than 50 L water/ha.
- Chemical rates vary for different size plants (shown below).
- Oil additives such as DowElanco Uptake to spray mix will improve control.

Points to remember

- Older plants may not be completely killed but seeding will be reduced.
- Clean machinery after use in affected areas.
- Established seed populations may take years to control.

Further information

For more information about controlling Sicklepod on your farm please contact your local adviser.

Crop	Weed controlled	Rate/ha	Critical comments
Sugarcane grown from Mossman to Sarina	Sicklepod / Arsenic Weed	Weeds less than 0.5 m in height: Apply 0.7 L Tordon 75-D + 0.8 L 2,4D amine (625 g/L) with Uptake™ Spraying Oil at 1 L/200 L, or BS-1000 at 200 mL/200 L of spray mixture.	Uptake spraying oil contains a non-ionic surfactant. Do not add extra surfactant. Good coverage of the plant is essential. Apply at an early growth stage before flowering.
		Weeds 0.5-1.0 m in height: Apply 1 L Tordon 75-D + 0.8 L 2,4D amine (625 g/L) with Uptake™ Spraying Oil at 1 L/200 L, or BS-1000 at 200 mL/200 L of spray mixture.	Adhere to the withholding period: Do not harvest for 8 weeks after application. Use a minimum of 200 L/ha water volume when using a ground boom.
		Weeds greater than 1.0 m in height: Apply 1.5 L Tordon 75-D + 0.8 L 2,4D amine (625 g/L) with Uptake™ Spraying Oil at 1 L/200 L, or BS-1000 at 200 mL/200 L of spray mixture.	Do not apply 2,4D to sensitive varieties. Must be applied using coarse to very coarse droplets.

Copyright © 2013 * All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of SRA. Disclaimer in this disclaimer a reference to 'we', 'us' or 'our' means SRA and our directors, officers, agents and employees. Although we do our best to present information that is correct and accurate, we make no warranties, guarantees or representations about the suitability, reliability, reliability, call to reference or accuracy of the information was personal in this information Sheet, for any purposes. Subject to any terms implied by law and which cannot be excluded, we accept no responsibility for any loss, damage, cost or expense incurred by you as a result of the use of, or reliance on, any materials and information appearing in this information Sheet, and you agree that we will not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever (including through negligence) arising out of, or in connection with the use of this Information Sheet. We recommend that you contact our staff before acting on any information provided in this Information Sheet. Warning Our tests, inspections and recommendations should not be relied on without further, independent inquiries. They may not be accurate, complete or applicable for your particular needs for many reasons, including (for example) SRA being unaware of other matters relevant to individual crops, the analysis of unrepresentative samples or the influence of environmental, managerial or other factors on production.